

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3905
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2013
IMBALANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there has been an imbalance in various levels of society, areas and groups in higher education sector of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is formulating any action plan to remove this imbalance in higher education;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether there is any proposal to increase investment in education sector in the forthcoming Five Year Plan; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Access to higher education varies across the country for various reasons such as regional imbalance in the spread of institutional bases, unequal opportunities of access to higher education to certain social groups, gender disadvantages etc. In 2009-10, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in the country ranged from 9% (Assam) to 47.9% (Delhi). The GER for ST (females) during this period was 7.5% as against 15% for the country as a whole.

(c) & (d) A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) has been formulated by the Central Government for implementation in the XII Plan in order to comprehensively address the issues of access, equity and excellence, through a balanced, equitable expansion of the institutional base, creating additional capacity in existing institutions and bringing about certain academic and governance reforms in the higher education system. The details of the draft scheme are available at http://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/rusa_0.pdf

(e) & (f) The XII Plan as approved by National Development Council (NDC) has allocated Rs. 1,10,700 crores for higher education over the Rs. 84,943 crores allocated in the XI Plan. Out of this, Rs. 25,000 crores are allocated for the new CSS.